



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 18, 2011

### **H.R. 850**

#### **A bill to facilitate a proposed project in the Lower St. Croix Wild and Scenic River, and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 5, 2011*

H.R. 850 would waive section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to permit the construction of a bridge over the St. Croix River between Minnesota and Wisconsin. Allowing construction of the bridge would permit those states to spend Federal-Aid Highway funds appropriated and designated exclusively for construction of that bridge. As a result, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by \$8 million over the 2012-2021 period; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

Under section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the National Park Service has determined that construction of a bridge over the St. Croix River between Minnesota and Wisconsin would have an adverse effect on the river. As a result, federal agencies are prohibited from obligating any additional funds or providing any necessary permits to construct that bridge. By waiving section 7, H.R. 850 would permit construction of the bridge and would allow Minnesota and Wisconsin to use Federal-Aid Highway funds designated exclusively for that purpose. Based on information from the states involved, CBO estimates that those federal funds total about \$8 million.

H.R. 850 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net changes in outlays that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table.

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**CBO Estimate of Pay-As-You-Go Effects for H.R. 850, a bill to facilitate a project in the Lower St. Croix Wild and Scenic River, and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 5, 2011**

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	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars											2012-	2012-
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2016	2021	
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (-) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	2	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sarah Puro. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gulo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.